

might be so very agreeable, but I am not much acquainted with her. I wrote to Nichols the other day, he will have a chance to find out if I am turned abolitionist yet or not. I am glad to hear that Josie has got through with the Chicken Box, hope Annie will not have a very hard time. Tell the little darlings that I think of them every day, and want to see them very much. Tell them that I want to hear that they are good girls & mind their Mother. I suppose they will grow so that I shall hardly know them when I get back. You will probably have received the money that I sent before this reaches you. I think you had better keep it yourself at present, unless you prefer to use it in some other way. I should like to have you go out as much as you can and enjoy yourself, so as to make the time pass quicker, while I am away, when I get back I shall claim you to myself, but you shall say how we shall pass our time if you wish to go out together more than we used to do, so it shall be. I sincerely regret having used any expressions in writing to you, that offended, and ask your pardon. I will be sure and never offend again in a like manner. Please forget it and keep the kiss of forgiveness warm until we meet. I was more sorry than you can imagine to find that there was anything in my letters to displease you, but will make an effort to care myself of that very bad habit of using such expressions, but it is a bad place to begin in. You say that Mother has written to me, but I have not received any letter from her yet. I am sorry to hear that F. has enlisted - but he must take his chance with the rest. I am glad in you say that Mother has written to me, but I have not received

## Transcription:

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that you did not give him the kiss that you intended for me  
for I shall need them all when I come home.

I have not heard from Elmer for some time, not since we left  
A. nor have not written to him, but shall soon. I'll tell all ~~the~~  
of our friends that I should like to hear from them. Nelson &  
Hattie Lewis & Ruth in particular. a letter from home is something  
that they don't know the value of yet - now never will I hope  
Andrew Johnson is not any better yet, but there is hope of him  
yet. We shall be paid off again in about 4 weeks. for 2 months  
when I will send you some more money I mean you shall have  
enough to make you comfortable while I am away. There is so  
much confusion here that I will leave it and try and finish some  
time when I can know what I am writing. I will say good night  
now to my own darling who is fast asleep I hope, for it is twelve  
o'clock. ~~Good~~ Nov 2<sup>d</sup> I will now try to finish this letter. If I do not  
get home you must go and make father & mother a visit in the Spring or  
sooner if you like. I have a great mind to destroy those letters that I  
have written before this for fear there may be some things that you will not  
like & I have no time to look them over. Hope you will not think  
them tiresome, but am not sure, as there is so little of interest to write  
about, & they were written under such circumstances that of course  
there will be a great many mistakes, but I judge you by my-  
self and hope you will be pleased, for I can fully realize ~~the~~ and  
appreciate your love, and believe me, my own sweet wife, that it  
fully returns. You may think it was not very kind for me to  
leave you to come out here, but I believe that it will prove a  
blessing in the end. I had much rather die here and be remembered  
in love by you, than to have any coldness or unkindness come  
again between my darling and her true and loving. I can do  
nothing in the end. I had much rather die here and be remembered

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again between my darling, and her true and loving, Leander

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<sup>1</sup>Andrew Johnson (1838-1897) of Kingston enlistment and mustered in September  
1861 as a Private in Co. H. He died of disease December 4, 1861 in Hilton Head, South  
Carolina. Adjutant-General's Office. *Register of New Hampshire Soldiers and Sailors War  
of the Rebellion 1861-1866*. (Concord, NH: Ayling, Augustus D., 1895), 179.